

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /117 W

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R 301719Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4752

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: WIENAND AND GUILLAUME AFFAIRS

REF: BONN 13492

BEGIN SUMMARY: WIENAND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE LEAVE OF  
ABSENCE UNTIL HIS CASE SETTLED. OPPOSITION WILL  
CONTINUE TO MAKE MUCH ADO ABOUT THIS AND GUILLAUME  
AFFAIR FOR WEEKS TO COME. END SUMMARY

1. KARL WIENAND HAS REPORTEDLY ASKED FOR A TEMPORARY  
LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM HIS BUNDESTAG DUTIES AS THE SPD'S  
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NUMBER ONE PARLIAMENTARY WHIP UNTIL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST

HIM ARE SETTLED IN COURT. SPD PARLIAMENTARY GROUP EXECUTIVE BOARD IS EXPECTED TO APPROVE WIENAND'S REQUEST TODAY. WIENAND'S DEPARTURE, AT LEAST FOR A WHILE, COMES AS NO SURPRISE. IN AN OTHERWISE EQUIVOCATING TELEVISION INTERVIEW AUGUST 26, HERBERT WEHNER CLEARLY DISTANCED HIMSELF FROM HIS PROTEGE AND FLATLY DENIED THAT HE COUPLES HIS POLITICAL FATE WITH WIENAND'S.

2. GUILLAUME HEARINGS, NOW ENTERING FOURTH DAY, ARE RECEIVING PROMINENT PRESS COVERAGE, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN NO STARTLING REVELATIONS. TESTIMONY OF NOLLAU (PRESIDENT OF BUNDESAMT FUER VERFASSUNGSSCHUTZ), SCHRUEBBER (HIS PREDECESSOR) AND LOWER OFFICIALS SUGGEST THAT THERE WERE SOME BUREAUCRATIC SLIPS BUT NO INDICATIONS OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE OR WRONGDOING IN SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS OF GUILLAUME. WEHNER HAS STATED HE IS PREPARED TO TESTIFY.

3. SPD SPOKESMEN HAVE REPUDIATED ALLEGATIONS IN AUGUST 29 ISSUE OF THE SENSATIONAL, ANTI-GOVERNMENT "QUICK" ILLUSTRATED. QUICK ASSERTS THAT "HERBERT WEHNER IS SERIOUSLY SUSPECTED OF HAVING FACILITATED GUILLAUME'S ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES AND OF HAVING INFORMED THE GDR'S ERICH HONECKER MORE THAN ONE YEAR AGO THAT GUILLAUME WAS ABOUT TO BE EXPOSED." STORY GIVES NO BASIS FOR THESE CHARGES OTHER THAN "RESEARCH."

4. NEITHER SCHMIDT NOR BRANDT HAVE REACTED PUBLICLY TO THESE DEVELOPMENTS. COMMENTS OF COURSE CONTINUE TO BE HEARD TO THE EFFECT THAT NEITHER BRANDT NOR SCHMIDT CARE MUCH FOR WEHNER, AND ALSO THAT SCHMIDT WOULD LIKE TO REPLACE BRANDT WITH HIS OWN MAN AS PARTY CHAIRMAN.

5. COMMENT: NATURALLY, THE CDU/CSU WILL TRY TO DRAMATIZE THE LATEST SCANDALS AS MUCH AND AS LONG AS THEY CAN, PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY ARE HARD PUT TO FIND ANY OTHER WAY TO ATTACK THE GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH WIENAND MAY HAVE TO GO, AT THIS POINT IT LOOKS LIKE WEHNER IS PROBABLY STILL IN A GOOD FIGHTING POSITION. THE SCANDALS COULD TARNISH THE SPD'S IMAGE SOMEWHAT; HOWEVER, THE VOTERS HAVE BEEN WATCHING SCANDALS ARISE AND DISAPPEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(WITHOUT RESOLUTION) FOR YEARS. THE NUMBER ONE POLITICAL PROBLEM FACING SCHMIDT AND HIS GOVERNMENT IS STILL THE ECONOMY.  
CASH

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## Message Attributes

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